Households registered under NREGA

382. **SHRI** C. PERUMAL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 6 per cent of the households registered under National rural Employment Guarantee Act got 100 days of employment during the year 2006-07;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the wage provided under this scheme are less than minimum prescribed wages in the State;

(c) if so, whether Government have analysed the reasons and what are the actions taken by Government to make this programme more beneficial for the rural households; and;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) NREGA is a demand driven programme. The number of days for which employment is provided will depend on the number of days for which employment is demanded by a household. During the year 2006-2007, 21.43 lakh households had completed 100 days of employment.

(b) No, sir. Wages are paid under NREGS in accordance with the wage rate fixed by the State Government Under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers as per the provisions of Section 6 (2) of the Act.

(c) and (d) The programmes has been given wide publicity to enhance awareness among the beneficiaries. Audio-visual media, print and cultural forms have been used for this purpose. States have been asked to strengthen capacity to meet demand for employment through additional staffing at Gram panchayat level, timely payment of wages and improving work sit facilities to further improve the programme.

Extension of Rural Employment Scheme

383. **SHRI** T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been extended to all districts in the country; and;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Government of India has decided to extend NREGS to all the remaining rural districts in the country, including the Union Territories, with effect from 1.4.2008. A list of 266 districts covered in the third phase of implementation of NREGAE is given in the Statement. (*See* below) A notification to this effect was issued on 28.9.2007.

Statement

List of 266 Additional Districts being notified under NREGA w.e.f. April 1, 2008

Phase—III

S.No.	Sl.District	District
1	2	3
		Andhra Pradesh
1	1	West Godavari
2	2	Krishna
3	3	Visakhapatnam